



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "A"

APPLICANTS: Shinichiro Yamada et al. ATTY DOCKET NO: 09792909-4734  
SERIAL NO.: 09/747,627 GROUP ART UNIT: 1745  
DATE FILED: December 22, 2000 EXAMINER: J. Crepeau  
INVENTION: "METHODS OF PRODUCING NEGATIVE ELECTRODE  
MATERIAL, NEGATIVE ELECTRODE, AND NON-AQUEOUS  
ELECTROLYTE BATTERY"

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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S I R:

This Amendment "A" is filed in response to the Office Action of July 3, 2002. Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, and 7 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A method of producing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material and a carbon material, comprising the step of:  
pulverizing and classifying each of the non-carbon material and the carbon material in an inert gas atmosphere,  
wherein a ratio of an average particle size  $R_M$  of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size  $R_C$  of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of  $R_M/R_C \leq 1$ .

2. (Amended) A method of producing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material and a carbon material, comprising the step of:  
mixing the non-carbon material and the carbon material in an inert gas atmosphere,  
wherein a ratio of an average particle size  $R_M$  of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size  $R_C$  of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of  $R_M/R_C \leq 1$ .